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APPLICATION NO). F	ILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.	
09/972,208		10/05/2001	Gerd Spalink	450117-03443	4762	
20999	7590	06/28/2005		EXAM	INER	
		ENCE & HAUG		TRAN, PHUC H		
	I AVENUE KK, NY 10	- 10TH FL. 0151		ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER	
	,			2666		
				DATE MAILED: 06/28/2005		

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Application No.	G		
Examiner	nt(s)	Application No.	
PHUC H. TRAN 2866 The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Edutations of time may be available used the provision of 3 of R1 x13(e). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after 50X (§) MONTH'S from the mailing date of this communication. I NO period for reply is specified between the mailing date of this communication. I NO period for reply is specified there the Diver months. I NO period for reply is period after the Diver months. Pallure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ARANDONED (\$1 U.S. C. § 133). Any reply revealed by the Office later bus been embrained after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any stances patient term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b). Status 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2001. 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final. 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) Claim(s) 1.13 (s/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5) Claim(s) 1.21 (s/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are allowed. 6) Claim(s) 1.2.1 and 12 (s/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) 2.7.9.10 and 13 is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) 3.8.1 and 12 (s/are rejected. 7) Claim(s) 2.7.9.10 and 13 is/are objected to. 8) Claim(s) 3.8.1 and 12 (s/are rejected. 10) The drawing(s) filed on is/are. a) calcepted or b) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d). 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by	K, GERD	09/972,208	
The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address Period for Reply A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE ② MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION. Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CPR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filled after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication. If the period is newly specified date is less than this (20) days, a reply within the action of the control of the communication. Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (38 U.S. C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office laber than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any examed patient turm adjustment. See 37 CPR 1.704(b). Status 1) □ Responsive to communication(s) filed on 05 October 2001. 2a) □ This action is FINAL. 2b) □ This action is FINAL. 2b) □ This action is private the practice under Ex parte Quayle, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213. Disposition of Claims 4) □ Claim(s) 1.13 is/are pending in the application. 4a) Of the above claim(s) is/are withdrawn from consideration. 5b) □ Claim(s) 1.81 and 12 is/are rejected. 7b) □ Claim(s) 1.81 and 12 is/are objected to. 6b) □ Claim(s) 1.81 and 12 is/are objected to. 7c) □ Claim(s) 2.7.9.10 and 13 is/are objected to. 7c) □ The specification is objected to by the Examiner. 10c) □ The chaving(s) filed on is/are: a) □ accepted or b) □ objected to by the Examiner. Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a). Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 97 CFR 1.121(d). 11) □ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152. Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119 12) □ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S		Examiner	Office Action Summary
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1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s)/Mail Date			
Notice of Draitsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08) Paper No(s)/Mail Date 10/5/01. 5) □ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152) Other:	ation (PTO-152)	5) 🔲 Notice of Informal P	Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

1. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

(e) the invention was described in a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent, or on an international application by another who has fulfilled the requirements of paragraphs (1), (2), and (4) of section 371(c) of this title before the invention thereof by the applicant for patent.

The changes made to 35 U.S.C. 102(e) by the American Inventors Protection Act of 1999 (AIPA) and the Intellectual Property and High Technology Technical Amendments Act of 2002 do not apply when the reference is a U.S. patent resulting directly or indirectly from an international application filed before November 29, 2000. Therefore, the prior art date of the reference is determined under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) prior to the amendment by the AIPA (pre-AIPA 35 U.S.C. 102(e)).

- 2. Claims 1, 8 and 11-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Sato (U.S. Patent No. 6128318).
- With respect to claim 1, Sato teaches a method to perform a cycle synchronization between interconnected sub-networks, characterized in that

a reference node connected to one of the sub-networks transmits a respective cycle time information to cycle masters of all other sub-networks at recurring time instants (col. 2, lines 2-5), and

the cycle masters of all other sub-networks adjust their cycle time accordingly (col. 2, lines 5-7).

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- With respect to claim 8, Sato also teaches characterized in that the cycle time information transmitted by the reference node is a content of its cycle time register (col. 2, lines 10-11).

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- With respect to claim 11, Sato discloses characterized in that the recurring time instants are determined according to a regular time interval with a small variation (col. 6, lines 56-60).
 - With respect to claim 12, Sato teaches cycle synchronizator, characterized by
- a clock offset estimation means to determine a timing error of an own cycle timer (col. 7, lines 24-35), and
- a cycle adjustment loop receiving the timing error determined by said clock offset estimation means to adjust the own cycle timer to reduce its timing error (col. 7, lines 45-47).

Allowable Subject Matter

3. Claims 2-7, 9-10 and 13 are objected to as being dependent upon a rejected base claim, but would be allowable if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Conclusion

- 4. The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.
 - Jarvis (U.S. Patent No. 5918040) discloses method for maintaining time synchronization between two processors in a network interface.
 - Douceur (U.S. Patent No. 5907685) discloses system and method for synchronizing clocks in distributed computer nodes.

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5. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the

examiner should be directed to PHUC H. TRAN whose telephone number is (571) 272-3172.

The examiner can normally be reached on M-F (8-4:30).

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's

supervisor, RAO SEEMA can be reached on (571) 272-3174. The fax phone number for the

organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent

Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications

may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished

applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR

system, see http://pair-direct.uspto.gov. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR

system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

Phuc Tran Assistant Examiner

Art Unit 2664

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